

# Monthly Morbidity Report

July 2003

## Highlights

The Office of Epidemiology worked with local health department communicable disease nurses on a possible outbreak involving [Escherichia coli](#) infections. Six out of 8 Utah residents had gastrointestinal symptoms after an extended vacation during the month. Four of the travelers were hospitalized, and 4 of the cases were positive for *E. coli* O157:H7. No source of infection was identified.

An outbreak of diarrheal illnesses was also reported from the Bear River Health District. More than 60 individuals reported gastrointestinal symptoms after attending an event, 11 of whom were known Utah residents. The etiologic agent was not identified. However, the Bear River Health Department collected drinking water samples (from the area where the event took place) which were heavily contaminated with fecal coliform, according to laboratory tests. The business was closed until the water system was thoroughly cleaned and the water effectively treated.

The number of [Giardia](#) infections reported in July 2003 (42) increased by 64% over the number of cases reported during July 2002 (25). The completed case investigations have been unremarkable and, therefore, no known cause for the increase in number of cases has been determined at this time.

The Office of Epidemiology assisted in the investigation of 2 culture-confirmed [mumps](#) cases in Weber County. Both cases had a history of receiving at least one Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine. Isolates from the cases will be forwarded to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for further analysis.

Two bats, which tested positive for [rabies](#) at the state laboratory, were reported in July. One bat, found at a Utah County residence, had no known human or animal exposures. An unvaccinated dog in Davis County was exposed to the second bat. Animal control officers worked with the owners regarding the decision to either euthanize the pet or quarantine it for at least 6 months.

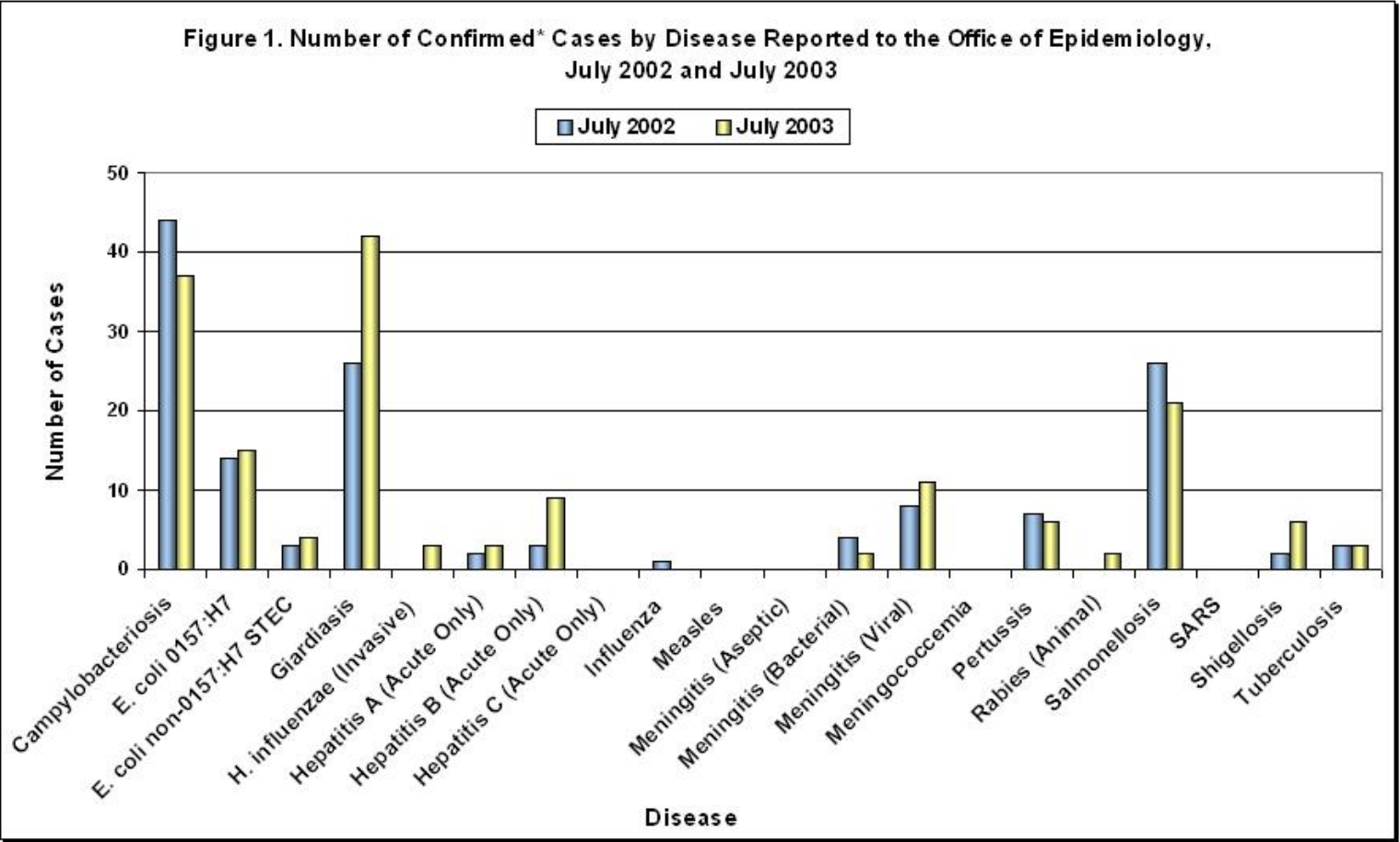
A resident in the Southeastern Utah Health District tested positive for [tularemia](#) at the state laboratory. The patient reported an insect bite in June and an onset of symptoms in July. The patient was subsequently treated with antibiotics.

The total number of confirmed\* cases for 20 selected diseases, reported by Utah [health districts](#), is provided below (Table 1 and Figure 1).

\* There is no "Confirmed Case" classification that has been defined for SARS. Therefore, the number of SARS cases reported to date represents only the number of "Suspect" or "Probable" cases.

Updated: 08/14/2003 (DJ)

Figure 1. Cumulative Number of Confirmed\* Cases for 20 Selected Diseases, Reported by Utah Health Districts, July 2003.



\*There is no "Confirmed Case" classification that has been defined for SARS. Therefore, the number of SARS cases reported to date represents only the number of "Suspect" or "Probable" cases.

**Table 1. Cumulative Number of Confirmed\* Diseases for 20 Selected Diseases, Reported by Utah Health Districts, July 2003.**

Health District	Campylobacteriosis	<i>E. coli</i> 0157:H7	<i>E. coli non-0157:H7 STEC</i>	<i>Giardiasis</i>	<i>H. influenzae</i> (Invasive)	Hepatitis A (Acute Only)	Hepatitis B (Acute Only)	Hepatitis C (Acute Only)	Influenza	Measles	Meningitis (Aseptic)	Meningitis (Bacterial)	Meningitis (Viral)	Meningococemia	Pertussis	Rabies (Animal)	<i>Salmonellosis</i>	SARS	<i>Shigellosis</i>	Tuberculosis
Bear River	3	1										1					3			
Central	3																2			
Davis	3	5		7												1	1			
Salt Lake	16	3	3	19	1		6					1	3		2	1	10		3	3
Southeast	2					1														
Southwest	2	4		4	2												2			
Summit	1																			
Tooele	1																			
Tricounty			1																	
Utah county	6	1		7		1							4		4		1		2	
Wasatch																				
Weber-Morgan		1		5		1	3						4				2		1	
July 2003	37	15	4	42	3	3	9	0	0	0	0	2	11	0	6	2	21	0	6	3
July 2002	44	14	3	26	0	2	3	0	1	0	0	4	8	0	7	0	26	0	2	3
2003 To Date	130	24	13	174	11	18	29	0	350	0	1	18	31	0	31	6	107	6	28	18
2002 To Date	146	31	13	136	15	25	25	4	384	0	0	13	26	1	25	2	93	0	18	93

\* There is no "Confirmed Case" classification that has been defined for SARS. Therefore, the number of SARS cases reported to date represents only the number of "Suspect" or "Probable" cases.